ADVANCES IN MATHEMATICS 57, 91 (1985)

Book Reviews

R. SHAW, *Linear Algebra and Group Representations*, Vol. II, *Multilinear Algebra and Group Representations*, Academic Press, New York, 1983, 579 pp.

Important notice: This is probably the first comprehensive and informative non-doctrinaire presentation of multilinear algebra ever written.

M. M. BOTVINNIK, *Computers in Chess*, Springer-Verlag, Berlin/New York, 1984, 158 pp.

The Russians are putting their big boys to the service of computers—I almost said mankind—and here is one of the great names of chess talking about chess, of all things, and making more sense than any hacker of software.

B. L. REINHART, *Differential Geometry of Foliations*, Springer-Verlag, Berlin/New York, 1983, 196 pp.

Every once in a while someone brave enough comes along to give a thorough exposition of a hot research topic. It is easy to write books on the Lebesgue integral or finite Markov chains, or on any of the other well-understood topics for which no further expositions are needed. But it takes guts to render a service to mankind by making a difficult subject accessible, at the cost of incurring into the wrath of the high priests, ever ready to find fault with the presentation of theorem 33, or to decry the absence of any mention of their pet corollary. Bruce Reinhart is one such brave soul.

D. J. BARTHOLOMEW, *Stochastic Models for Social Processes* (3rd ed.), Wiley, New York, 1982, 365 pp.

This is a good practical introduction to a number of stochastic processes that can be easily visualized by ad hoc examples. We would like these catchy examples to apply to the real world, most of all to the world of the social sciences, which has proved impervious to mathematics. Unfortunately, the elegance of the mathematics underscores its irrelevance to our understanding of social phenomena.

F. BORCEAUX AND G. VAN DER BOSSCHE, *Algebra in a Localic Topos with Applications to Ring Theory*, Springer-Verlag, Berlin/New York, 1983, 240 pp.

Now that we understand that a commutative ring can be represented as a ring of sections of a sheaf defined as a suitable generalization of a topological space, we also begin to understand that such a representation may be extended to other, quite general, algebraic structures. This book takes a bold step in such a direction, using the bold theory of topoi, which seems to be here to stay despite its boldness.

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Editor

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